

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, December 13, 1902, with transcript

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL TO MABEL (Hubbard) BELL Point Tupper. December 13, 1902. My darling little wife:

Mr. McInnis and I have been discussing Beinn Bhreagh affairs and have come to conclusion that a radical change must be made on the lines you suggest — and that Departments should be created. The accounts to be kept separate. Department Heads to have same relation to the Manager that the Manager does to us. There are two Departments we are agreed upon — Farm Department and Graham Department — but nothing can be done about Farm Department excepting to plan for it. We can't get a man till we have a place to put him. We must build a farm house before creating the Department.

The Garden Department should be created at once — and that is the main point I am giving my attention to. When I reach Montreal I will dictate my conclusions to a typewriter and mail to you.

Gardener to have charge of grounds at the Point (limits to be defined).

His duties are to care for the grounds as directed by Mrs. Bell and to raise such garden produce as she may desire — and such other garden products as he thinks best after consultation with her — to aid in paying the expenses of Department. All garden products to be sold to us at market rates — and anything we don't need to be sold outside and utilized to the profit of the Department. All supplies to be purchased at market rates and paid for by cheque. Gardening account to be opened at Bank so as to keep everything separate. Wages and all expenses to be paid out of sale of products.

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Can't write more now as Mr. McInnis must return.

Think you and Daidums should join us at Montreal and spend at least one day there.

Your loving husband, Alec.